Kemps nine daies vvonder.

Performed in a daunce from London to Norwich.

Containing the pleaſure, paines and kinde entertainment of William Kemp betweene London and that Citty in his late Morrice.

Wherein is ſomewhat ſet downe worth note; to reprooue the ſlaunders ſpred of him: many things merry, nothing hurtfull.

Written by himſelfe to ſatisfie his friends.

LONDON
Printed by E. A. for Nicholas Ling, and are to be ſolde at his ſhop at the weſt doore of Saint Paules Church. 1600.

Kemps nine daies wonder.

Performed in a dance from

London to Norwich.

Containing the pleasure, paines and kinde entertainment
of Maister Kemp, betweene London and this City
of Norwich.

Wherein is somewhat to be done worth note, to expresse
the fantasticke spred of this mery mery,
nod ing head.

BIBLIOTHECA BODLEIANA

LONDON

Printed by E. A. for Nicholas Ling, and are to be
solde at his shop at the west doore of Saint
Paules Church. 1600.

To the true Ennobled Lady, and his most bountifull Mistris, Mistris *Anne Fitton*, Mayde of Honour to the most sacred Mayde Royall Queene *Elizabeth*.

HOnorable Mistris in the waine of my little wit, I am forst to desire your protection, else euery Ballad singer will proclaime me bankrupt of honesty. A sinne of mad fellows seeing me, merrily dispos'd in a Morrice, haue so bepainted mee in print since my gambols began from London to Norwich, that (hauing but an ill face before) I shall appeare to the world without a face, if your fayre hand wipe not away their foule coulors. One hath written *Kemps* round to the tune of Kery, mery, Buffe: another his desperate dangers in his late trauaile: the third his entertainement to New-Market: which towne I came neuer neere by the length of halfe the heath. Some sweare in a Trenchmore I haue trode a good way to winne the world: others that gueſſe righter, affirme I haue without good help daunſt my ſelfe out of the world: many ſay many thinges

that were neuer thought. But in a word your poore seruant offers the truth of his progresse and profit to your honorable view, receiue it I beseech you, such as it is, rude and plaine, for I know your pure iudgement, lookes as soone to see beauty in a Blackamoore, or heare smooth speech from a Stammerer, as to finde any thing, but blunt mirth in a Morrice dauncer, especially such a one as *Will Kemp*, that hath spent his life in mad Iigges and merry iestes. Three reasons mooue mee to make publik this iourney, one to reprooue lying fooles I neuer knew: the other to comend louing friends, which by the way I daily found: the third to shew my duety to your honorable selfe, whose fauours (among other bountifull friends) makes me (in spight of this sad world) iudge my hart Corke, & my heeles feathers, so that me thinkes I could flye to Rome (at least hop to Rome, as the olde Prouerbe is) with a mortar on my head. In which light conceite I lowly begge pardon and leaue, for my Taber strikes his hunt vp, I must to Norwich. Imagine Noble Mistris, I am now setting from my Lord Mayors, the houre about leauen, the morning gloomy, the company many, my hart merry.

Your worthy Ladiships most

vnworthy seruant,

William Kemp.

Kemps nine daies wonder

Performed in a Morrice from London to Norwich. Wherein euery daies iour-

ney is pleasantly set downe, to satisfie his friends expectation, against all lying pamphlets that haue, or shall be made of him: what he did, how he was welcome, and by whome he was entertained.

The first daies iourney, being the first Munday in cleane Lent, from the right honorable the Lord Maiors house at

Sion neere Brainford, and mount Surrey by Norwich.

rey, beginneth lastly to leaue it, from the right Honorable the Lord Mayors of London, to wards the right worshipfull and truely honourable Maister Mayors of Norwich.

My setting forward was somewhat before seuen in the morning, our Chariot stroke vp merrily, and as fast as kinde peoples thronging together would giue vnto Iohn, from London I leapt. By the way many good olde people, and diuers Citizens of yonger yeres, of meere kindenes, gaue me bowd farepenes and groates, blessing me with their harty prayers and God-speedes.

Being past white chappell, and hauing left faire London, with all that North-east Suburb before named, (which I finde all Londoners let not me but either, to keepe a custom, which many holde, that Mile-end is no walke without a recreatiō at Stratford Bow with Creame and Cakes, or else for loue they beare vnto Gunnes powder, to make them selues merry, at Shoomakers (as they pretende) to giue ouer my Horses within a mile of Mile-end. Ho'we euer, many a thousand haue gone to and fro, where I neede not to tell, hauing been by all such perfect, that would haue one, gone to hearing. But I warrant you Will Kemp had made enough to haue bidden friends thanks was my returne, with Gentlemanlike protestations: So away I set, & diuers Citizens and yonge Gentlemen of my kindred, Congratulated their comming, that

Sion more
Brainford,
and mouns
Surrey by
Norwich.

A great spoone in Ilford holding above a quart.

townes

townes end I strained my hip, and for a time endured exceeding paine: but being loath to trouble a Surgeon I held on, finding remedy by labour that had hurt mee, for it came in a trice, and so in my daunce I turned it out of my seruice againe.

The multitudes were so great at my comming to Burntwood, that I had much a doe (though I made many intreaties and staies) to get passage to my Inne.

In this towne two Cut-purses were taken, that with other two of their companions followed mee from London (as many better disposed persons did:) but these two by-doppers gaue out when they were apprehended, that they had laid wagers and betted about my iourney: whereupon the Officers bringing them to my Inne, I iustly denyed their acquaintance, saying that I remembred one of them to be a noted Cut-purse, such a one as we tye to a poast on our stage, for all people to wonder at, when at a play they are taken pilfring.

This fellow & his half brother being found with the deed, were sent to Iayle: their other two consorts had the charity of the towne, & after a dance of Trenchmore at the whipping crosse, they were sent backe to London: where I am afraide there are too many of their occupation. To bee short I thought my selfe well rid of foure such followers, and I wish hartily that the whole world were clear of such companions.

Hauing rested well at Burntwood, the Moone

shining clearely, and the weather being calme, in the euening I tript it to Ingerstone, stealing away from those numbers of people that followed mee: yet doe I what I could, I had aboue fiftie in the company, some of London, the other of the Country there about, that would needs when they heard my Taber, trudge after me through thicke and thin.

The third dayes iourney, being Friday of the first weeke.

ON Friday morning I set forward towardes Chelmsford, not hauing past two hundred, being the least company that I had in the day time: betweene London and that place. Onward I went thus easily followed, till I come to Witford bridge, where a number of country people, and many Gentlemen and Gentlewomen, were gathered together to see me. Sir Thomas Mildmay standing at his Parke pale, receiued gently a payre of garters of me: gloues, points, and garters, being my ordinary marchandize, that I put out to venter for performance of my merry voyage.

So much a doe I had to passe by the people at Chelmsford, that it was more than an houre ere I could recouer my Inne gate, where I was faine to locke my selfe in my Chamber, and pacifie them with wordes out of a window instead of deedes: to deale plainely I was so weary, that I could dance no more.

The

The next morning I footed it three myle of my way toward Braintree: but returned backe againe to Chelmsford, where I lay that Satterday and the next Sunday. The good cheere and kinde welcome I had at Chelmsford, was much more than I was willing to entertaine: for my onely desire was to refraine drinke, and be temperate in my diet.

At Chelmsford a Mayde not passing fouretene yeares of age, dwelling with one Sudley my kinde friend, made request to her Master and Dame, that she might daunce the Morrice with me in a great large roome. They being intreated, I was loone wonne to fit her with bels, beside she would haue the olde fashion with napking on her armes, and to our iumps we fell. A whole houre she held out: but then being ready to lye downe I left her off: but thus much in her praise, I would haue challenged the stongest man in Chelmsford, and amongst many I thinke few would haue done so much.

The fourth dayes iourney, beeing Munday of the second vveeke.

ON Munday morning very early, I rid the 3. myles that I daunst the satterday before: where

alighting, my Taberet stricke vp, and lightly I tript forward, but I had the heauiest way that ener mad Morrice-dancer trod: yet

With hey and ho, through thicke and thin,
the hobby horse quite forgotten,
I follow'd as I did begin,
although the way were rotten.

This foule way I could finde no ease in, thicke woods being on either side the lane: the lane likewise being full of deep holes, sometimes I skipt by to the waste: but it is an old Prouerb. That it is a little comfort to the miserable to haue companions, and amidst this mirry way, I had some mirth by an vnlooke for accident.

It was the custome of honest Country fellowes my vnknowne friends, vpon hearing of my Pype (which might well be heard in a still morning or euening a mile) to get vp and beare mee company a little way. In this foule way two pretty plaine youthes watcht me, and with their kindnes somewhat hindred me. One a fine light fellow would be still before me, the other euer at my heeles. At length comming to a broad plash of water and mud, which could not be auoyded, I fetcht a rise, yet fell in ouer the anckles at the further end. My youth that follow'd me, tooke his iump, and stuck fast in the midst, crying out to his companion, come George, call yee this daunsing, Ile goe no further: for indeede hee

could

could goe no further, till his fellow was faine to wade and help him out. I could not chuse but lough to see howe like two frogges they laboured: a hartye farwell I gaue them, and they faintly bad God speed me, saying if I daunst that durtie way this seauen yeares againe, they would neuer daunce after me.

Well, with much a do I got into Braintree by noone, tarried there Munday night and the next day: onely I daunst three miles on Tewsday, to ease my Wednesdaies iourney.

If I should deny that I was welcome at Braintree, I should slander an honest crewe of kind men, among whome I far'd well, slept well, and was euery way well bide.

The fift dayes iourney being Wednesday of the second weeke.

TAking aduantage of my 3. miles that I had daunst a day before, this wednesday morning I tript it to Sudbury, whether came to see a very kinde Gentleman Master Folkew, that had before trauailed a foote from London to Barwick: who giuing me good counsaile to obserue temperate dyet for my health, and other aduise to bee carefull of my company, besides his liberall entertainment, departed leauing me much indebted to his loue.

In this towne of Sudbury, there came a lusty

tall fellow, a butcher by his profession, that would in a Morrice kepe mee company to Bury: I being glad of his friendly offer, gaue him thankes, and forward wee did set: but ere euer wee had measur'd halfe a mile of our way, he gaue me ouer in the plain field, protesting, that if he might get a 100. pound, he would not hold out with me: for indeed my pace in dauncing is not ordinary.

As he and I were parting, a lusty Country lasse being among the people, cal'd him faint hearted lout: saying, if I had begun to daunce, I would haue held out one myle though it had cost my life. At which wordes many laughed. Nay saith she, if the Dauncer will lend me a leash of his belles, Ile venter to treade one mile with him my selfe. I look'd vpon her, saw mirth in her eies, heard boldnes in her words, and beheld her ready to tucke vp her russet petticoate, I fitted her with bels: which she merrily taking, garnisht her thicke short legs, and with a smooth brow bad the Tabrer begin. The Drum strucke, forward marcht I with my merry Maydemarian: who shooke her fat sides: and footed it merrily to Melford, being a long myle. There parting with her, I gaue her (besides her skin full of drinke) an English crowne to buy more drinke, for good wench she was in a pittious heate: my kindnes she requited with dropping some dozen of short courtsies, and bidding God blesse the Dauncer, I bad her adieu: and to giue her her due, she had a good care, daunst truely, and wee parted friendly. But

ere

ere I part with her, a good fellow my feiend, hauin wit an odde Rime of her, I will make bolde to set it downe.

A Country Lasse browne as a berry,
Blith of blee in heart as merry,
Cheekes well fed and sides well larded,
Euery bone with fat flesh guarded,
Meeting merry Kemp by chaunce,
Was Marrian in his Morrice daunce,
Her stump-legs with bels were garnisht,
Her browne browes with sweating yarnish,
Her browne hips when she was lag,
To win her ground, went swig a swag,
Which to see all that came after,
VVere repleate with mirthfull laughter.
Yet she thumpt it on her way,
VVith a sportly hey de gay,
At a mile her daunce she ended,
Kindly paide and well commended.

At Welford, diuers Gentlemen met mee, who brought me to one maister Coltes, a very kinde and worshipfull Gentleman, where I had vnexpected entertainment till the Saterday. From whose house hauing hope somewhat to amend my way to Bury, I determined to goe by Clare, but I found it to be both farther and fouler.

The

The sixt dayes iourney, being Satterday of the second weeke.

FRom Wednesday night til Satterday hauing bin very troublesome, but much more welcome to master Colts: in the morning I toke my leaue, and was accompanied with many Gentlemen a myle of my way. Which myle master Colts his foole would needs daunce with me, and had his desire, where leauing me, two foules parted faire in a foule way: I keeping on my course to Clare, where I a while rested, and then cheerefully set forward to Bury.

Passing from Clare towards Bury, I was inuited to the house of a very bountiful widdow, whose husband during his life was a Yeoman of that Countrie, dying rich no doubt, as might well appeare, by the riches and plentie, that abounded in euery corner of the house. She is called the widdow Cueret.

At her house were met aboue thirty Gentlemen. Such, and so plentifull variety of good fare, I haue very seldome seene in any Commoners house. Her behauiour being very modest and freendly, argued her bringing vp not to be rude. She was a woman of good presence: and if a foole may iudge, of no small discretion.

From this widdowes I daunst to Bury, comming in on the Satterday in the afternoone, at what

what time the right honorable the Lord Chiefe Iustice entred at an other gate of the towne, the wondring and regardles multitude made slight his honor cleare way, left the streates where he past to gape at me: the throng of them being so great, that poore Will Kemp was seauen times stayd ere he could recouer his Inne. By reason of the great snow that then fell, I stayd at Bury from Saterday in the second weeke of my setting forth, til Thursday night the next weeke following.

The seauenth dayes iourney being Friday of the third weeke.

Vpon Fryday morning I set on towardes Thetford, dauncing that tenne mile in three houres: for I left Bury somewhat after seauen in the morning, and was at Thetford somewhat after ten that same forenoone. But indeed consydering how I had been vexed the other iourneys before, and that all this way or the most of it was ouer a heath, it was no great wonder: for I car'd like one that had escaped the stockes, and tride the vse of his legs to ouer runne Constable: so light was my heeles, that I counted the tenne mile no better than a leape.

At my entrance into Thetford, the people came in great numbers to see me: for there were many there, being Sise time. The noble Gentleman Sir Edward Rich, gaue me entertainment in such bounti-

stall and liberal for, during my continuance there Saterday and Sunday, that I want fitte words to expresse the least part of his worthy vlage of my vnworthines: and to conclude liberally as he had begun and continued, at my departure on Munday, his worship gaue me fiue pound.

The eyght dayes iourney being Munday of the fourth weeke.

ON Munday morning I daunst to Rockland ere I rested, and comming to my Inne, where the Hoast was a very bone companion, I desir'd to see him: but in no case he would be spoken with, till he had shifted himselfe from his working dayes sute: Being armed at all poynts, from the cap to the codpeece, his blacke shooes shining, and made straight with copper buckles of the best, his garters in the fashion, and euery garment fitting Coaremsquandam (to vse his owne word): hee enters the Hall with his bonnet in his hand, began to crye out.

O Kemp deere Maister Kemp: you are euen as welcome as as as, and so stammering, he began to study for a fit comparison, and I thanke him at last he fitted me: for saith he, thou art euen as welcome, as the Queenes best grey-hound. After this dogged yet well-meaning salutation, the Carrowses were called in: and my friendly Hoast of Rockland be-

began with. All this: blessing the houre vppon his knees, that any of the Queenes Maiesties well-willers or friends would vouchsafe to come within his house: as it neuer any such had beene within his doores before.

I tooke his good meaning, and gaue him great thankes for his kindenesse: and hauing rested me well, began to take my course for Hingham, whether my honest Hoast of Rockland would needs be my guide: but good true fat-belly he had not followed me two fieldes, but he lyes all along, and cryes after me to come backe and speake with him. I fulfild his request: and comming to him, dauncer quoth hee if thou daunce a Gods name God spede thee: I cannot follow thee a foote farther, but adieu good dauncer, God spede thee if thou daunce a Gods name.

I hauing haste of my way, and he being able to keep no way, there we parted. Farewell he, he was a kinde good fellow, a true Troyan: and it euer be my lucke to meete him at more leasure, Ile make him full amendes with a Cup full of Canarie. But nowe I am a little better aduis'd, wee must not thus let my madde Hoast passe: for my friend late mentioned before, that made the odde time on my Maide-marian, would needes remember my Hoast. Such as it is Ile bluntly set downe.

He was a man not ouer spare,
In his eyball and no care.
And an antique and welcome friend,
Were the most vvords he vsde to spend.
Some sometime he vvould sit and tell,
What wonders once in Bullayne fell;
Closing each Period of his tale,
With a full cup of Nut-brovvne Ale.
Eury vin and Turneys siedge vvere hote,
Yet all my heart remembers not
Kenfield and Misselborough fray,
Were braules fought but yesterday.
Gay vvas good master then, and stout
To shut your vvord and buckler mout
That you vvould go heere, and there and there,
But I would meete them euery vvhere:
And spurn a man it vvas a pricke,
A hart vvith vvord vvith sparring sticke,
Will dare to challenge Cunning Dicke.
Dame vvould the vvorld to set,
But vvill not medle for them or mee.
Bvt his sonne euery vvhere the house, and
After friend had a fresh carouse,
Still he will drinke, and still be dry,
And quaffe vvith euery company.
Saint Martin send him merry meete
To enter at his hostree gates,
For a blither lad than he
Cannot an Inkeeper be.

well once againe fare well mine Hoast at Rockland: after all these fare wels I am sure to Hingham I found a foule way, as before I had done from Thetford to Rockland.

Yet besides the deep way I was much hindred, by the desire people had to see me. For euen as our Shop-kæpers will hayle, and pull a man with Lack ye: what do you lack Gentlemen? My ware is best eryes one: mine best in England sayes another: here shall you haue choyce saith the third: so was the diuers voyces of the young men and Maydens, which I should meete at euerie myles ende, thronging by twentie and sometime fortie, yea hundreths in a compasse. One crying the fayrest way was through their Village: another, this is the neerest and fayrest way, when you haue past but a myle and a halfe: an other sort crie, come on the left hand, come on the right hand: thus I was so amazed, I knewe not sometime which way I might best take: but hap hazard, the people still accompanying me, wherewith I was much comforted, though the wayes were badde: but as I said before at last I escaped.

The ninth dayes iourney, being VVednesday of the second weeke.

THe next morning I left Hingham, not staying till I came to Watford bridge, due young

men running all the way with me, for otherwise my pace was not for footemen.

From Barford bridge I daunst to Norwich: but comming within sight of the Citty, perceiuing so great a multitude and throng of people still crowding more and more about me, mistrusting it would be a let to my determined expedition, and pleasurable humour: which I long before conceiued to delight this Citty with (so far as my best skill, and industry of my long trauelled time) wes could afford them) I was aduised, and so tooke cale by that aduise, to stay my Morrice a little above Saint Giles his gate, where I tooke my gelding, and so rid into the Citty, procrastinating my merry Morrice daunce through the Citty till better opportunitie.

Being come into the Citty: Maister Roger Miler the Maior, and sundry other of his worshipfull Brethren sent for me: who perceiuing howe I intended not to daunce into the Cittye that nyght: and being well satisfied with the reasons, they allotted me time enough not to daunce in till Saterday after: to the end that diuers Knyghts and Gentlemen, together with their wiues and Children (who had beene many dayes before deceyued with expectation of my comming) might nowe haue sufficient warning, accordingly by saterday following.

In the meane space, and during my still continuaunce in the Cittye afterwardes, they not

onely

onely very courteously offered to beare mine owne charges and my followers, but very bountifully performed it at the common charges: the Mayor and many of the Aldermen often times besides inuited vs priuately to their seuerall houses.

To make a short end of this tedious description of my entertainment: Saterday no sooner came, but I returned without the Citty through Saint Giles his gate: and beganne my Morice where I left at that gate, but I entred in at Saint Stephens gate, where one Thomas Gilbert in name of all the rest of the Cittizens gaue me a friendly and exceeding kind welcome: which I haue no reason to omit, vnlesse I would condemne my selfe of ingratitude; partlye for the priuate affection of the writer towardes me: as also for the generall loue and fauour I found in them, from the highest to the lowest, the richest as the poorest. It followes in these fewe lynes.

Master Kemp *his welcome* to Norvvich.

W With hart, and hand, among the rest,
E Especially you welcome are:
L Long looked for, as welcome guest,
C Come now at last you be from farre.

O Of most within the Citty sure,
M Many good wishes you haue had.
E Each one did pray you might indure,
W With courage good the match you made.
I Intend they did with gladsome hearts,
L Like your well willers, you to meete:
K Know you also they'l doe their parts,
E Eyther in field or house to greete
M More you then any with you came,
P Procur'd thereto with trumpe and fame.

Your well-willer.
T. G.

Passing the gate, watchers (such Officers as were appointed by the Mayor) to make me way through the throng of the people, which preast mightily vpon me: with great labour I got through that narrow preaze into the open market place: where on the crosse, ready prepared, stood the Citty Waytes, which not a little refreshed my wearines with toyling through so narrow a lane, as the people left me: such Waytes (vnder Benedicite be it spoken) few we Citties in our Realme haue the like, none better. Who, besides their excellency in wind instruments, their rare cunning on the Lyroll, and Violin: their voices be admirable, euerie one of the able to serue in any Cathedrall Church in Christendoome for Quiristers.

Passing by the Market place, the preasse still increasing

creasing by the number of boyes, girles, men and
women, thronging more and more before me to see
the end. It was the misehaunce of a homely maide,
that belike, was but newly crept into the fashion of
long wasted petticotes, ryde with points, & had, as it
seemed but one point tyed before, and comming vn-
luckily in my way, as I was fetching a leape, it fell
out that I set my foote on her skirts: the point ey-
ther breaking or stretching, downe fell her petticoate
from her waste, but as chance was, though her smock
were course, it was cleanely: yet the poore wench
was so ashamed, the rather for that she could hardly
recouer her coate again from bluntly boies, that lo-
king before like one that had the greene sicknesse,
now had she her cheekes all coloured with scarlet. I
was sorry for her, but on I went towards the Wit-
ness, and deceiued the people, by leaping ouer the
Church-yard wall at S. Johns, getting so into M.
Mayors gates a nearer way: but at last I found it
the further way about: being forced on the Tewes-
day following to come to my former daunce, because
George Spratt my ouer-seer hauing lost me in the
throng, would not be depos'd that I had daunc't it,
since he saw me not: and I must confesse I did not
well, for the Citizens had counseled that the turne-pike
to be taken vp on Saterday, that I might not be
hindred. But now I returne againe to my Iump,
the measure of which is to be seene in the Guild-hall
at Norwich, where my daunce, that I then bore,
and daunc't in from Norden thither, stand vnequally

bended, vaulted on the toall. The plenty of good
cheare at the Mayors, his bounty, and kinde biage,
together with the generall welcomes of his worship-
full brethren, and many other knights, Ladies, Gen-
tlemen & Gentlewomen, so much exceeded my expec-
tation, as I adiudg'd my selfe most bound to them
all. The Maior gaue me fiue pound in Elsabeth an-
gels: which Maior (faire Madame, to whom I too
presumptuously dedicate my idle paces) as a man
worthy of a singuler and impartiall admiration, if
the enuious hues of your minds could as prodigally
conferre as he deserues, for his chast life, liberality, &
temperance in possessing worldly benefits: he liues
vnmarried, and yet hild selfe, neuer purchased house nor
land: the deuels in hell giue, he being but hyr-
ed, he liues vpon marchandies, being a Marchant
venturer. If our marchants & gentlemen would take
example by this man, Gentlemen would not sell
their lands, to become bankrout Marchants, nor
Marchants liue in the possessions of yout bebe guiled
gentlemen: who cast themselues out of their parents
heritages for a few out-cast commodities. But wel
whither walk thou? no but hath Morice tripping
still to do with thee? it is time to his dance:
therefore roome your morall precepts, giue my legs
leaue to ende my Morice, or that being ended, my
hands leaue to perfect this worthielle poore tottered
volume.

Pardon me Madame, that I am thus tedious,
I cannot chuse but cõmend sacred liberality, which

[illegible] twelue months past, abes of all conditions
betweene Bridges the Loue & fauour of euery one that is
M. Rosell the man of gallantrie 40. Sir Velyt bunting
Inglish, making gaine of euery man of the most chiefe bene-
factors I had, thought rogues of all sorts, neuer thought
let no man beleeue how neere before by lying Pallets
Creatures they haue bin abused: their eares were
held open to me, or that I deliuered bookes to their Ma-
sterships for good bearing, keeping my maisters (but in a
friendly sort) mirth, mine and thoughtlesse be-haui-
bin scene shal be employd beside the delight of my Loyal
Mistris: who sith it is the name ought not to be rumi-
bred among such ribald rimes as these late thin-
brecht lying Pallet-fingers haue proclaimed it.

It resteth now that in a word I shew, what pro-
fit I haue made by my Morrice: true it is I put out
some money to haue threefold gaine at my returne,
some that loue me, regard my paines, & respect their
promise, haue sent home the treble worth, some other
at the first sight haue paide me, if I came to ask the,
others I cannot be, nor will they willingly be found,
and these are the greater number. If they had al bid
me wel, or al ill: I would haue boldly set downe the
true sum of my whole gaine as iust, but I will haue pa-
tience, some few yeares longer. At the end of which time,
if any be behinde, I will deliuer a catalogue of al their
names I mentioned with whose y haue shewne the-
selues honest men, I will set before them this Caract-
ter H. for honestly: before the other Bench-whistlers
shal stand R. for Ketlers & Beistreis, that will driue a
good companion without need in them to contend

Kemps humble request to the impudent generation of Ballad-makers and their cohe-rents: that it would please their rascalities to pitty his paines in the great iourney he pretends, and not fill the country with lyes of his never done acts, as they did in his late Morrice to Norwich.

To the tune of *Thomas Dolliver Episcopi.*

MY notable shabe rags, the effect of my late
to discouered me be the [illegible] of my [illegible]
But for you bel[illegible]
I know you'le be a true [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[

ber, hath been the Author of these abhominable bal-
lets written of me: I was told it was the great bal-
let-maker T.D. alias Tho. Deloney, Chronicler of the
memorable liues of the 6 yeomen of the west, Iack
of Newbery, the Gentle-craft, & such like honest mē;
omitted by Stow, Hollinshead, Grafto, Hal, froyfart,
& the rest of those wel deseruing writers: but I was
giuen since to vnderstand, your late generall Tho.
Dyd passed by, since all round his head was swelled by rea-
son of a wicked & most cruel blow that one of your
Clarkes of Iewry, finding him by death acquited
of the Indictement, I was sent to visit, & mother Dyd
of his wife, one principall employment for the poore Saints,
was to train soules to heauen, for which to be Elder was
immediate step. [illegible] to the Lord, that after
due humiliation was made, he was by the Elders
knowne to be able & meet to [illegible]
then ouer the Church. [illegible]
well beloued of the Lord, & for diuers other
in the Church, & that to the better, a principall one
whose soule was long vexed by vnlawful [illegible]
Warbeck, or Canterbury, or Mason or both: for I
am sure it was, though I never had the wit
to see it at first, but the matter was so handsomly pol-
lished, that should have once bin glad I durst trust
the reader to tell him about the bushes: and lest he
should not, but be hard thus terribly about, O nie my Cabel
vera: for that he was like to find such a thing at mine
Host, wd presume upon: I found him at the [illegible]
side, setting abroach, & desired [illegible]

had

had him to a Taverne, charg'd a pipe with Tobacco, and then laid this terrible accusation to his charge. He lookes presently like one of the foure windes, the violence of his wrath blew the Tobacco out of the pipe, & the heate of his wrath drunke dry two bowle-fulls of strong wine. At length hauing power to speake. Name my accuser saith he, or I defye thee. Keep at the quart staffe. I told him, all his anger turned to laughter: swearing it did him good to haue all words of a hoddy doddy, a babbe de boy, a chicken a squib, a squall: One that hath not wit e-nough to make a ballet, that by Pol and Ardpol, would spoil his father; Derides his dad: doe anie thing to winne fauour, to please his apish humor. I hardly be leeue this youth that I take to be gra-cious, had bin so graceles: but I heard afterwards his mother in law was eye and eare witnes of his fathers abuse by this blessed childe on a publique stage, in a merry iloast of an Innes part. But all this while could not I finde out the true bal-let-maker. Till by chaunce a friend of mine pull out of his pocket a booke in Latine called Mun-dus Furiosus; printed at Cullen, written by one of the wildest and arrantest lying Cullians that euer writ booke, his name Jansonius, who ta-king vpon him to write an abstract of all the tur-bulent actions that had beene lately attempted or performed in Christendome, like an vnchristian wretch, writes onely by report, partially, and

scoffingly

scoffingly, of such whose pages shoes he was vnworthy to wipe, for indeed he is now dead: farewell he, every dog must have a day. But for the luck on't: this beggerly lying bustle-bodies name, brought out the Ballad-maker: and it was generally confirmd, it was his kinsman: he confesses himselfe guilty, let any man looke on his face: if there be not so redde a colour that all the sope in the towne will not washe it white, let me be turned to no thing as I walke betweene Dover and Calice. Well, God forgiue that honest fellow, I for myne haue grace in that: I pray thee do so no more, leaue writing these beastly ballets, make not good women and sophisticall, for litle by vnpeasing so a five-penny master: remember a poore fellowes fame that is hanged for his offence: it may be thy turne to dye one day, prethee be good to them. Call vp thy olde Helpomene, behold heere the quill and inke that drew the bloody line of the blew Lady, and the picture of the running crowne: a better subiect I can tell ye: than your Knight of the Red Crosse. So fare wel, and trolle me no more I prethee with thy rabble of bald rimes, least at my returne I set a crosse on thy forehead, that all men may know thee for a foole.

FINIS. VVilliam Kemp.